

KeyholeFarm.com
Keyhole Garden
 Instructions
FRAME KIT



PLEASE NOTE:
 A VIDEO HAS BEEN LAUNCHED ON OUR WEBSITE KEYHOLEFARM.COM THAT OFFERS THE EASY WAY TO CONSTRUCT THE KEYHOLE GARDEN FRAME.

IT IS UNDER THE MENU ITEM "EXTRAS" IN THE UPPER RIGHT-HAND CORNER AREA.

GO TO THE PAGE AND WATCH FOR POINTERS.

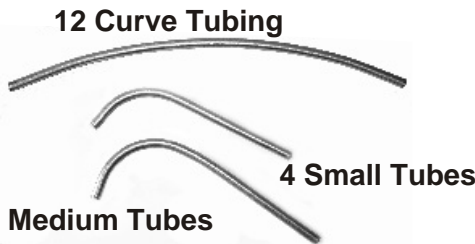
BE CAREFUL

Safety precautions should be taken when using tools, especially power tools. Please exercise caution.

- POWER DRIVER (required)
- PADDED Mallet (optional)
- Small Drill Bit (optional), included

SAFETY NOTE:
 Please Watch For SHARP EDGES on the METAL TUBING.

THIS KIT CONTAINS:



These instructions are based upon the techniques Keyholefarm.com utilizes to put the kit together. There are probably variations of these instructions that will work fine, too.

The dimensions of the finished product should fall in the ballpark of being: a 6-ft. diameter across the top (circle, pretending the wedge not cut out), the internal basket should have a diameter of approximately 12 inches, and the fill content of the garden should comprise approximately 1.8 cu. yds., which excludes the wedge and internal basket.

We recommend building the frame first, then attaching the panels to it, and finally constructing the internal basket.

THE FRAME

1. PUT THE FRAME TOGETHER FIRST. Ingredients consist of tubing: 12 big bends, 4 small bends, 4 medium bends; 10 "tee posts," and a packet of self-tapping screws that includes a small drill bit in the event it is needed to make a starter hole in the tubing. You might also need a rubber mallet or stick to tap tees into place. A power driver is required to drill the screws into the metal.



2. Start with the wedge portion of the frame, inserting the curved edges of the small bends into both ends of a tee post. Raise the remaining ends of the small bends and attach a tee post to the left and right sides, to separate the upper and lower rail, forming a "U" shape. The pre-drilled holes in the tees should be visible from the inside of the "U."



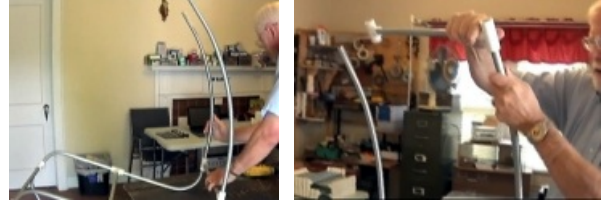
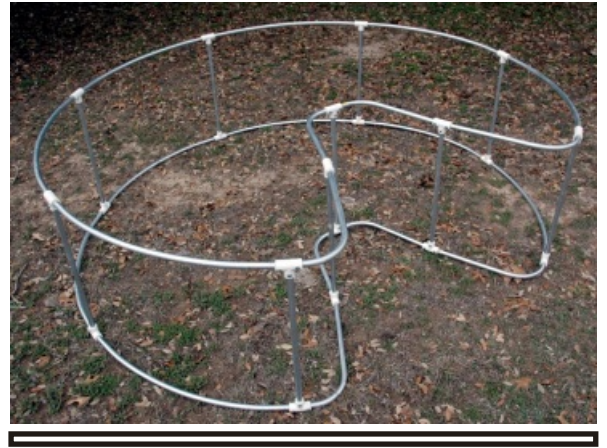
3. Now, using the power driver, drill screws into the bottom tee post and then rotate the two sides onto a flat surface to drill one screw on each side tee post where it connects with the small bend. Always be sure the rails (curved metal) are inserted all the way.



4. Next, insert the four medium bends (long end toward the "U"). On one side, point the two curved parts of the medium bends downward and add a tee-post to keep alignment correct. Insert a screw on each of the tee posts where the long end is connected. Do the same thing on the other side. Now put a screw into the tee posts adjoining the curved part of the medium bends. See illustration.



5. You are now working with four connect points, the upper and lower rail on both the right- and left-handed sides. On one side, take two big bends and insert them into the edge tee post, the big bends facing up. Put another tee post on the open ends to keep alignment, then flip the unit into the first



opposite direction and insert screws adjacent to the curved parts of the medium bends. The first screws on the newly added tee post can then be inserted. Do the same thing to the other side. Be sure that all screws will be on the outside of the frame unit.



The Frame...Continued On Next Page

THE FRAME CONTINUED

6. Now turn the unit over (below images), with the wedge pointing up and the big bends pointing up and begin installing big bends on one side: two bends, upper and lower rail, followed by a tee post to assure alignment. Put in screws along the way.



After the final two big bends are inserted and before screws are added, bring the opposite side of the unit up and around to connect with the last two big bends. You might have to push down on the top of the unit to allow the big bends to easily fit into the tee post openings on the other side of the unit. Put them in place, then insert the remaining four screws to complete the unit.

7. We generally try to build this unit on a table, as we deem that easier, and usually do so inside, then roll it outside to be used to determine level at its intended site (put a board across it and a level on top of the board). It is easier to dig around and position the frame than a unit with panels. After level is established, we bring the frame back inside to install panels.

8. It normally takes one person about 25 minutes to build the frame (15-20 minutes with a helper). In drilling the screws into place, put light pressure on the power drill at first, then increase it when you are sure the drill is at a stable position. At times, the drill might slip off the screw, so be sure that hands are kept out of harm's way. If for

some reason a screw simply won't go in, replace the screw. Sometimes (but rarely) it is misshapen. The included small drill bit can also be used to make a starter hole for easier insertion of a screw. Also, sometimes a particular power driver will work best in putting screws into metal at a slower speed, so it might be worthwhile to experiment early on to determine the optimum speed for your driver.

9. A video describing what we determine to be the easy way to construct a frame has a link on our website, www.keyholefarm.com. On the right portion of the upper menu bar under the "Extras" tab click on Easy Frame Construction, which will take you to a page that contains the link to the 15-minute YouTube video.

THE PANELS (not included in frame kit)

The next phase involves putting the panels onto the frame. If you want to do it indoors, first measure the panels to assure that they will fit through the doorway when rolled outside.

We usually place the frame on its side (as to roll it) and then work from both sides, rotating it as we go. If you do it outside in a finished position, you will need to put some bricks along the base of the frame since it sits up higher than the panels that will touch the ground.

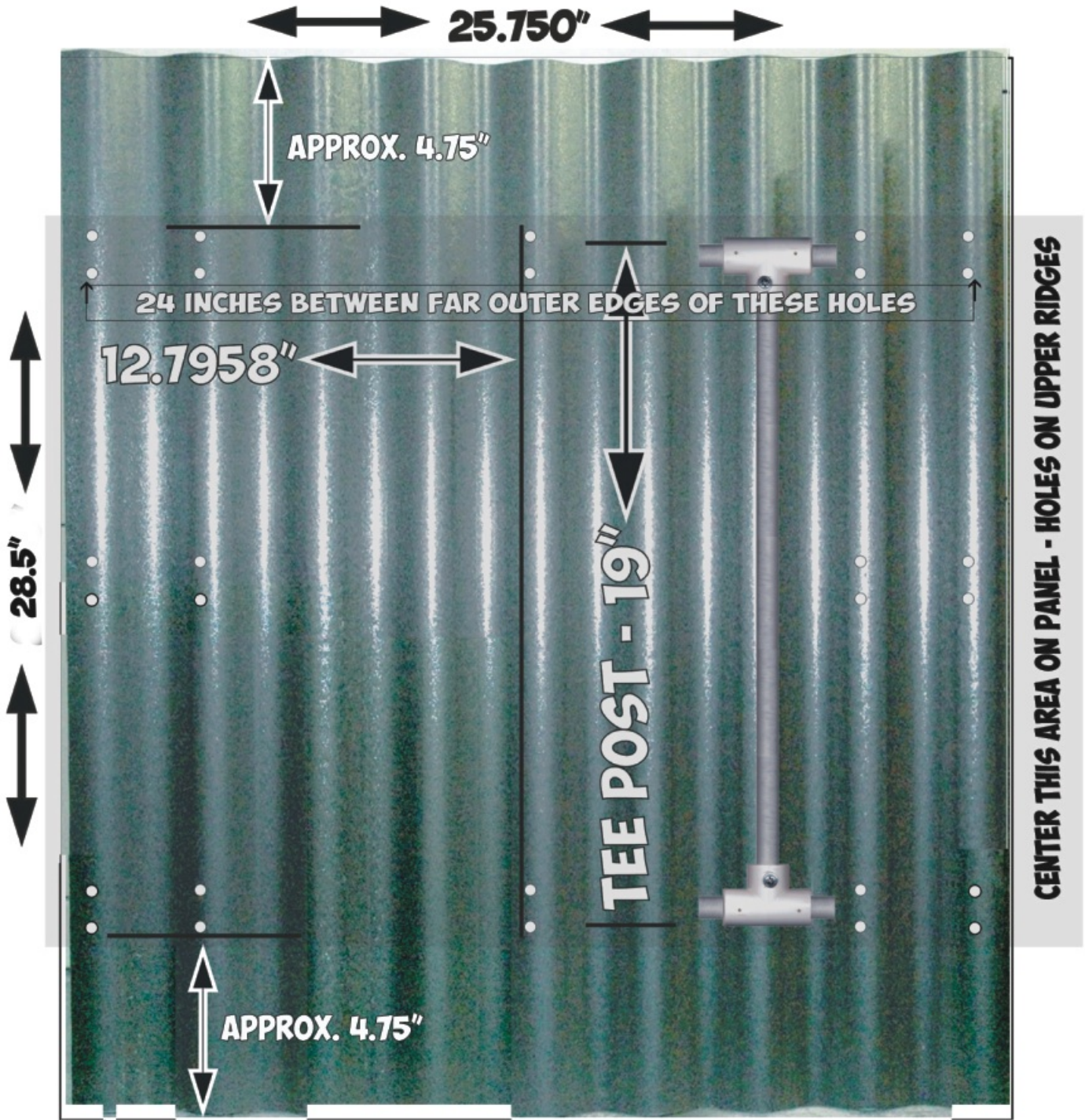
Attached (next page) is an illustration of our current panel measurements for constructing your own.

TIPS -- When we cut polycarbonate panels we use a circular saw blade that has 184 teeth (Promax brand). With fewer teeth we usually put the blades in backwards, which reduces chipping on plastic-type material.

The drill bits we use are called Pas-Drill Bits, made by Craftics. Our measure is 5/16 inch. This type of bit is ground differently than most store-bought brands, 90-degree point, 0-degree rake, which vastly reduces chipping, grabbing, cracking, and melting. We drill 12 panels at a time, clamped down tightly, and it usually takes about 12 seconds to drill through the panels on one hole. Just hold the drill firmly and at 90-degrees to the panels, without much pressure, just a little.

PANEL TEMPLATE

BASED ON KEYHOLE FARM
LATEST MEASUREMENTS

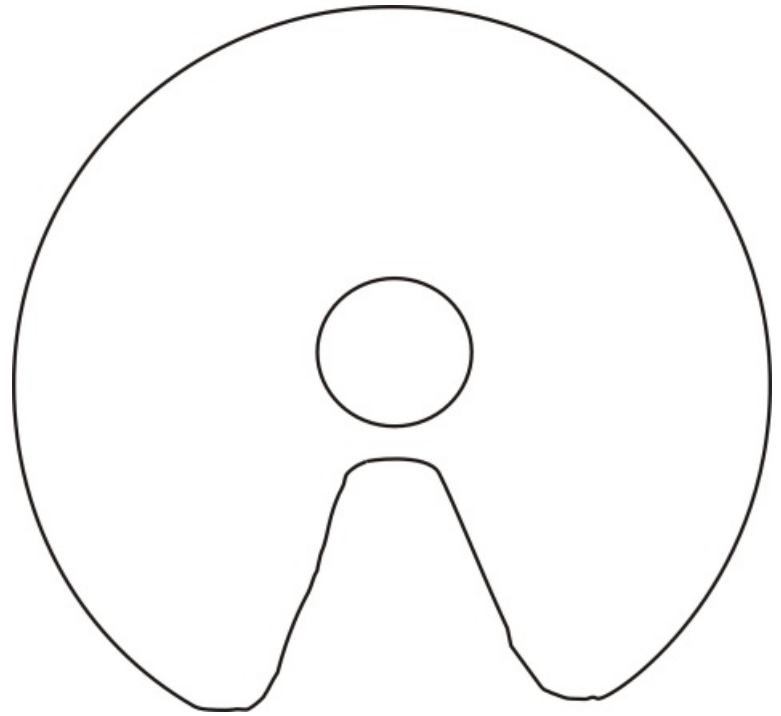


336 HOLES DRILLED PER 12-PANEL KIT

PLANTING WORKSHEET

INSTRUCTIONS:

On the numbered blanks below fill in the name of a crop. Then section off the circle at right and insert the number applicable to a crop in that area. Use a pencil in case you need to erase.



Keyhole Name or #:

Crop	Planting Date
01.	
02.	
03.	
04.	
05.	
06.	
07.	
08.	
09.	
10.	
11.	
12.	

Crop	Planting Date
13.	
14.	
15.	
16.	
17.	

Notes:

If you have any questions not answered in these instructions, please e-mail us at smith@keyholefarm.com and we will attempt to help. Here's wishing you the best of luck with your garden!